

Public Benefits Overview

Introduction Exercise

Day Two

Please complete the information below to share in small groups at the beginning of the training. Thanks.

1. Name, Organization, Job Duties

2. After (re) reading *History and Administration of Public Benefit Programs*, at what step of the cycle described on page 1/3 would you place American society today?

3. List as many stereotypes and myths about public benefit recipients as you can. How do these myths and stereotypes impact your work as an advocate for your clients? See also *Welfare Myths: Fact or Fiction? Exploring the Truth About Welfare (May 1996)*.

4. After reading *The Welfare Advocate's Challenge: Fighting Historic Racism in the New Welfare System*, list some examples of race, ethnic, gender, language, immigrant, pregnancy, or disability discrimination, or sexual or racial harassment in your public benefits work. What strategies have you and your organization used to address it?

5. Describe your learning goals for Day Two of this training; what one or two things would you like to leave the training with at the end of the day? Did taking a walk through *The People's Guide* give you any clues?